

## **Historic, Archive Document**

Do not assume content reflects current scientific knowledge, policies, or practices.



475 Fa  
Rg

LIBRARY  
RECEIVED

FAMILY FOOD BUDGETS  
U. S. Department of Agriculture  
FOR THE  
USE OF RELIEF AGENCIES

FOR EVERY CHILD  
EVERY DAY

*At least*

ONE PINT OF MILK  
(He *should* have 1½ to 2 pints)

TWO TEASPOONFULS OF  
COD-LIVER OIL IF HE IS LESS THAN  
TWO YEARS OLD  
(He *should* have 3 to 4 teaspoonfuls)

ONE VEGETABLE OR FRUIT  
(He *should* have three or four)

*And also*

PLENTY OF BREAD, CEREALS  
AND OTHER ENERGY  
AND BODY-BUILDING FOODS

UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF LABOR  
CHILDREN'S BUREAU  
AND  
UNITED STATES  
DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE  
BUREAU OF HOME ECONOMICS



UNITED STATES  
GOVERNMENT PRINTING OFFICE  
WASHINGTON: 1932

**ADEQUATE DIETS AT MINIMUM COST**

CONTAINING AMPLE MARGIN OF SAFETY IN PROTECTIVE AND OTHER FOODS

*Approximate quantities needed weekly by typical families*

Item	2 adults	Parents and 1 child <sup>1</sup>	Parents and 2 children under 12 years	Parents and 3 children under 15 years <sup>2</sup>	Parents and 4 children under 15 years <sup>2</sup>	Parents and 5 children under 15 years <sup>2</sup>
MILK, pasteurized whole, or its equivalent <sup>3</sup>	7 qts. \$---	14 qts. \$---	21 qts. \$---	28 qts. \$---	31½ qts. \$---	35 qts. \$---
<b>VEGETABLES AND FRUIT—</b>						
Potatoes, sweetpotatoes	6 lbs. ---	8 lbs. ---	11 lbs. ---	13 lbs. ---	15 lbs. ---	19 lbs. ---
Dried beans and peas, peanut butter	1 lb. ---	1-1½ lbs. ---	1½ lbs. ---	2 lbs. ---	2½ lbs. ---	3 lbs. ---
Tomatoes <sup>4</sup>	2 #2 cans. ---	3 #2 cans. ---	4 #2 cans. ---	3 #3 cans. ---	3 #3 cans. ---	4 #3 cans. ---
Leafy, yellow-colored, and green-colored vegetables	3 lbs. ---	5 lbs. ---	6 lbs. ---	7 lbs. ---	9 lbs. ---	12 lbs. ---
Dried fruit	1 lb. ---	1 lb. ---	1½ lbs. ---	1½ lbs. ---	2 lbs. ---	2½ lbs. ---
Other vegetables or fruit	4 lbs. ---	4-5 lbs. ---	6 lbs. ---	7 lbs. ---	8 lbs. ---	10 lbs. ---
<b>BREAD, FLOUR, CEREALS—</b>						
All in form of cereals and flour	8 lbs. ---	10-12 lbs. ---	14 lbs. ---	17 lbs. ---	20 lbs. ---	24 lbs. ---
OR						
Bread (part whole grain) <sup>5</sup>	4 1-lb. loaves. ---	5-6 1-lb. loaves. ---	5 1½-lb. loaves. ---	6 1½-lb. loaves. ---	7 1½-lb. loaves. ---	8 1½-lb. loaves. ---
Assorted cereals: Oatmeal, wheat, rice, macaroni, cornmeal, flour	5 lbs. ---	7-8 lbs. ---	9 lbs. ---	11 lbs. ---	13 lbs. ---	16 lbs. ---
<b>FATS—</b>						
Butter, margarine	¾ lb. ---	1 lb. ---	1 lb. ---	1¼ lbs. ---	1¼ lbs. ---	1½ lbs. ---
Lard, oils, salt pork, bacon	¾ lb. ---	1 lb. ---	1½ lbs. ---	1¾ lbs. ---	2¼ lbs. ---	3 lbs. ---
<b>SUGARS—</b>						
Sugar	1½ lbs. ---	1½-2 lbs. ---	2 lbs. ---	2½ lbs. ---	3 lbs. ---	4 lbs. ---
Cane or sorgo molasses or sirup <sup>6</sup>	½ pt. ---	½ pt. ---	½ pt. ---	½ pt. ---	1 pt. ---	1½ pts. ---
<b>OTHER FOODS—</b>						
Cheese, American	½ lb. ---	½ lb. ---	½ lb. ---	½ lb. ---	¾ lb. ---	1 lb. ---
Eggs	½ doz. ---	1 doz. ---	1½ doz. ---	1½ doz. ---	2 doz. ---	2½ doz. ---
Lean meat, fish	2½ lbs. ---	2½-3 lbs. ---	3½ lbs. ---	4 lbs. ---	5 lbs. ---	6 lbs. ---
<b>ACCESSORIES—</b>						
Coffee	1½ lb. } 0.25	1½ lb. } 0.25	1½ lb. } 0.25	1½ lb. } 0.30	1½ lb. } 0.35	1½ lb. } 0.40
Tea	1/8 lb. }	1/8 lb. }	1/8 lb. }	1/8 lb. }	1/8 lb. }	1/8 lb. }
Cocoa	1/4 lb. }	1/4 lb. }	1/4 lb. }	1/2 lb. }	3/4 lb. }	1 lb. }
Baking powder, salt, etc.	As needed.	As needed.	As needed.	As needed.	As needed.	As needed.
<b>COD-LIVER OIL (for each child under 2 years)</b>		3-4 oz. ---	3-4 oz. ---	3-4 oz. ---	3-4 oz. ---	3-4 oz. ---
Total cost (per week)---	\$---	\$---	\$---	\$---	\$---	\$---

<sup>1</sup> The smaller allowances apply if the child is under 6 years of age; the larger if the child is over 6 and under 12. Children in their teens need as much food as adults, and often more.<sup>2</sup> Includes one child of teen age.<sup>3</sup> See reverse of this sheet for equivalents in evaporated milk, skim milk (fresh or dried), and cheese. Add equivalent of 3½ quarts of fresh whole milk to each weekly allowance for families in which the mother is pregnant or lactating.<sup>4</sup> Oranges may be bought if, when waste is taken into account, they are as cheap as canned tomatoes.<sup>5</sup> If baking is not done at home, increase bread allowance. Deduct ½ pound of flour for each added pound of bread purchased.<sup>6</sup> If desired, use 1 pint (about 1½ pounds) of molasses or sirup for 1 pound of sugar.

In all relief the food budget should provide a diet adequate to maintain health and growth over an indefinite period of time and should allow an ample margin of safety in all nutritive essentials.

Calculate the minimum cost of the above diets from local market

(2)

prices for the cheapest form of each food listed. Recalculate every two weeks or every month to take account of changing prices.

Household supplies are usually provided in connection with food allowances and should always be estimated for in giving relief.

(3)



## RESTRICTED DIETS FOR EMERGENCY USE

CONTAINING ONLY THE "IRREDUCIBLE AMOUNTS" OF PROTECTIVE AND OTHER FOODS

Approximate quantities needed weekly by typical families

Item	2 adults	Parents and 1 child <sup>1</sup>	Parents and 2 children under 12 years	Parents and 3 children under 15 years <sup>2</sup>	Parents and 4 children under 15 years <sup>2</sup>	Parents and 5 children under 15 years <sup>2</sup>
MILK, pasteurized whole, or its equivalent <sup>3</sup> -----	7 pts. \$----	7 qts. \$----	10½ qts. \$----	14 qts. \$----	17½ qts. \$----	21 qts. \$----
VEGETABLES AND FRUIT—						
Potatoes-----	6 lbs. -----	8-9 lbs. -----	11 lbs. -----	13 lbs. -----	15 lbs. -----	19 lbs. -----
Dried beans and peas <sup>4</sup> -----	1 lb. -----	1½ lbs. -----	1½ lbs. -----	2 lbs. -----	2½ lbs. -----	3 lbs. -----
Tomatoes <sup>5</sup> -----	2 #2 cans. -----	2 #2 cans. -----	3 #2 cans. -----	4 #2 cans. -----	3 #3 cans. -----	3 #3 cans. -----
Leafy, yellow-colored, and green-colored vegetables-----	2 lbs. -----	2-3 lbs. -----	3 lbs. -----	4 lbs. -----	5 lbs. -----	6 lbs. -----
Dried fruit-----	½ lb. -----	½ lb. -----	¾ lb. -----	1 lb. -----	1 lb. -----	1¼ lbs. -----
Other vegetables or fruit-----	2 lbs. -----	2 lbs. -----	3 lbs. -----	3½ lbs. -----	4 lbs. -----	5 lbs. -----
BREAD, FLOUR, CEREALS—						
All in form of cereals and flour-----	9 lbs. -----	12-13 lbs. -----	16 lbs. -----	19 lbs. -----	24 lbs. -----	27 lbs. -----
OR						
Bread (part whole grain) <sup>6</sup> -----	4 1-lb. loaves. -----	5-6 1-lb. loaves. -----	5 1½-lb. loaves. -----	6 1½-lb. loaves. -----	7 1½-lb. loaves. -----	8 1½-lb. loaves. -----
Assorted cereals: Oatmeal, wheat, rice, macaroni, cornmeal, flour-----	6 lbs. -----	8-9 lbs. -----	11 lbs. -----	13 lbs. -----	17 lbs. -----	19 lbs. -----
FATS—						
Butter, margarine-----	½ lb. -----	½ lb. -----	½ lb. -----	½ lb. -----	¾ lb. -----	1 lb. -----
Lard, oils, salt pork, bacon-----	1 lb. -----	2-2¼ lbs. -----	2½ lbs. -----	3 lbs. -----	3½ lbs. -----	4 lbs. -----
SUGARS—						
Sugar-----	1½ lbs. -----	2-2½ lbs. -----	2½ lbs. -----	3 lbs. -----	4 lbs. -----	5 lbs. -----
Cane or sorgo molasses or sirup <sup>7</sup> -----	½ pt. -----	½ pt. -----	1 pt. -----	1 pt. -----	1 pt. -----	1 pt. -----
OTHER FOODS—						
Cheese, American-----	½ lb. -----	½ lb. -----	½ lb. -----	½ lb. -----	¾ lb. -----	1 lb. -----
Eggs-----	¼ doz. -----	½ doz. -----	¾ doz. -----	1 doz. -----	1 doz. -----	1 doz. -----
Lean meat, fish-----	1 lb. -----	1-1½ lbs. -----	1½ lbs. -----	2 lbs. -----	2½ lbs. -----	3 lbs. -----
ACCESSORIES—						
Coffee-----	½ lb. -----	½ lb. -----	½ lb. -----	½ lb. -----	½ lb. -----	½ lb. -----
Tea-----	⅛ lb. -----	⅛ lb. -----	⅛ lb. -----	⅛ lb. -----	⅛ lb. -----	⅛ lb. -----
Cocoa-----	¼ lb. -----	¼ lb. -----	¼ lb. -----	½ lb. -----	¾ lb. -----	1 lb. -----
Baking powder, salt, etc-----	As needed. -----	As needed. -----	As needed. -----	As needed. -----	As needed. -----	As needed. -----
COD-LIVER OIL (for each child under 2 years)-----	-----	2-3 oz. -----	2-3 oz. -----	2-3 oz. -----	2-3 oz. -----	2-3 oz. -----
Total cost (per week)---	\$-----	\$-----	\$-----	\$-----	\$-----	\$-----

<sup>1</sup> The smaller allowances apply if the child is under 6 years of age; the larger if the child is over 6 and under 12. Children in their teens need as much food as adults, and often more.

<sup>2</sup> Includes one child of teen age.

<sup>3</sup> See reverse of this sheet for equivalents in evaporated milk, skim milk (fresh or dried), and cheese. Add the equivalent of 3½ quarts of fresh whole milk to each weekly allowance for families in which the mother is pregnant or lactating.

<sup>4</sup> Increase by one-half or double the allowance for beans and peas, if desired. For each added pound of dried beans, decrease the flour or cereal allowance by 1 pound or the potato allowance by 5 pounds.

<sup>5</sup> Oranges may be bought if, when waste is taken into account, they are as cheap as canned tomatoes.

<sup>6</sup> If baking is not done at home, increase bread allowance. Deduct ⅔ pound flour for each added pound of bread purchased.

<sup>7</sup> If desired, 1 pint (about 1½ pounds) molasses or sirup may be used for 1 pound of sugar.

These restricted diets are for emergency use only. They are a guide when funds are insufficient to provide a fully adequate diet. The "irreducible amounts" represent quantities below which no diet should ever fall, and they may not be adequate for use over a long period of

time. Make every effort to increase the amounts of milk, vegetables, fruit, and, if there are young children, cod-liver oil to meet the allowance in "Adequate Diets at Minimum Cost."

# SAMPLE WEEKLY FOOD ORDER

## ADEQUATE DIET AT MINIMUM COST FOR FAMILY OF 5—PARENTS AND 3 CHILDREN

*Milk, bread and cereals, vegetables and fruit are the most important foods*

Item	Quantity	Price	Amount	Item	Quantity	Price	Amount	Item	Quantity	Price	Amount
<b>MILK</b>				<b>VEGETABLES, FRUITS</b>				<b>FATS</b>			
Equivalent of 28 quarts whole milk—				(canned may be used, if necessary)				3 pounds—			
Pasteurized whole.....				13 pounds potatoes.....				Butter.....			
Evaporated (14½-oz. cans).....				6 pounds tomatoes.....				Margarine.....			
Pasteurized skim.....				7 pounds leafy, yellow-colored, or green-colored vegetables:				Lard, cooking fats.....			
Butter (in addition to fat allowance).....				Cabbage.....				Salt pork.....			
Dried skim.....				Carrots.....				Vegetable oil.....			
Butter (in addition to fat allowance).....				Greens, spinach, kale.....							
American (whole-milk) cheese.....				Rutabaga.....				<b>SUGARS</b>			
<b>BREAD, FLOUR, CEREALS</b>				Squash.....				3 pounds—			
9 pounds bread and 10 pounds flour or cereal OR				String beans.....				Sugar.....			
17 pounds flour and assorted cereals:				2 pounds dried legumes:				Molasses or sirup.....			
Bread—				Beans.....							
Whole wheat.....				Lentils.....				<b>OTHER FOODS</b>			
White.....				Peas.....				Eggs.....			
Rye.....				Peanut butter.....				Lean meat.....			
Flour, other cereals—				1½ pounds dried fruits:				Fish.....			
Wheat flour.....				Prunes.....							
Cornmeal.....				Raisins.....				<b>ACCESSORIES</b>			
Hominy.....				Peaches, apricots.....				Cocoa.....			
Rolled oats.....				7 pounds other vegetables and fruits:				Coffee (½-pound limit).....			
Whole-wheat cereal.....				Onions.....				Tea (⅓-pound limit).....			
Macaroni, spaghetti.....				Turnips.....				Salt.....			
Barley.....				Beets.....				Baking powder.....			
				Canned corn.....				Condiments.....			
				Apples.....							
				Bananas.....				<b>Total cost.....</b>			

### NOTES TO RELIEF AGENTS

Lists of foods, such as the above, may be used as suggestions for mothers when cash relief is given, or as grocery orders when the order system of relief is used. They may be modified to provide for families of different sizes by using the quantities given on the reverse of this sheet. Families should be allowed as much choice as possible in the selection of food, because of differences in family, racial, and regional customs. Where food allowances are not made in cash, grocery orders should be supplemented with cash. A grocery order should give a list of foods, as above, and also the names of provision dealer, client, and relief organization, the amount of total food allowance, and the date of order, and should have space for a receipt.

Whenever possible, discuss the food allowance with each client in home visits or in meetings with small groups, so that foods may be selected and prepared intelligently. Call upon local teachers of home economics, public-health nurses, dietitians, and nutritionists to assist. Advice on food problems and printed information about foods and their preparation may be obtained from the extension service of the State agricultural college and the Bureau of Home Economics of the United States Department of Agriculture.

For the above sample order, the total or subtotal quantity of each type of food is that for the adequate diet suggested for a family of

five on the reverse side of this sheet. These quantities should be followed to provide the best food value for the money, but a choice of articles under each head may be permitted as indicated. If part of the milk supply is delivered to the family by a dairyman, the food order should show the additional number of quarts of fresh milk or number of cans of evaporated milk necessary to bring the whole amount to the total indicated.

If limited funds necessitate resorting temporarily to the Restricted Diet for Emergency Use, the total or subtotal quantities given for each type of food should be followed closely. It is important to include foods that will protect health as well as those that satisfy hunger.

Cod-liver oil (for all families in which there is a child under 2 years or an undernourished child) may be purchased very economically in pint bottles. If a welfare agency buys it at wholesale for distribution among families, considerable further savings will be made.

See also publication entitled, "Emergency Food Relief and Child Health," prepared by the U. S. Children's Bureau and the U. S. Bureau of Home Economics. Weekly market orders and food lists in this publication have been revised (December, 1932) as shown on reverse of this sheet.





## SUGGESTIONS FOR SPENDING FOOD MONEY WISELY

**MILK.**—Spend about one-third of the food money for milk and cheese.

For quick calculation, the equivalent of 1 quart liquid whole milk is:

1. One "tall can" (14½ oz.) evaporated milk. If evaporated milk is cheaper, buy at least half the milk supply in evaporated form. (Evaporated milk is especially adapted to the feeding of infants.)

2. One quart liquid skim milk and 1½ ounces butter. (One pound dry skim milk and ½ pound butter equal 5 quarts liquid whole milk.)

3. One-fourth pound American (whole-milk) cheese—for adults and older children.

**VEGETABLES AND FRUIT.**—Spend about one-fourth of the food money for vegetables and fruit.

Give preference to canned tomatoes, cabbage, inexpensive greens, carrots, potatoes, dried beans or peas, and the cheaper varieties of dried fruits.

**BREAD, FLOUR, AND CEREALS.**—Spend about one-fifth of the food money for bread, flour, and cereals.

Select some whole-wheat bread and dark cereals.

**FATS AND SUGARS.**—Spend not more than one-eighth, usually less, of the food money for fats and sugars.

Include some butter, if possible, and some unrefined cane or sorgo molasses or sirup.

**OTHER FOODS AND ACCESSORIES.**—Spend not more than one-sixth, usually less, of the food money for other foods, as eggs, lean meat, and fish, and for accessory articles.

A family may spend 25 cents a week for such articles as coffee, tea, cocoa, baking powder, spices, salt, etc. If more is spent, it should not exceed 5 per cent of the money for food.

**COD-LIVER OIL** should be given to all children under 2 years of age, and when diets are limited may well be given to all young children, especially to those who are undernourished.

## FAMILY FOOD GUIDE TO LOW-COST BALANCED DIETS

### EVERY MEAL.

Milk for children.

Bread for all.

### EVERY DAY.

Cereal in porridge, mush, or pudding.

Potatoes.

Tomatoes (or oranges) for children.

One or more additional fruits or vegetables, especially vegetables of green or yellow color.

Milk for all.

Molasses, sugar, other sweets.

Butter, fat meat, lard, other fats or oils.

### TWO TO FOUR TIMES A WEEK.

Tomatoes or raw cabbage for all.

Dried beans, peas, peanuts.

Eggs (especially for children).

Lean meat, fish, poultry, or cheese.

*(Plenty of water to drink is needed with any diet)*